PATENT IBM Docket No. UK9-99-128

Listing of Claims (Indicating status and amendments):

- 1 1. (Currently amended) Apparatus for processing business data
- 2 processing activities <u>during runtime</u>, said apparatus comprising:
- 3 [an] plural activity instances applied for respective uses
- 4 at runtime; and
- 5 a descriptor for each said activity instance [associated]
- 6 which is customizable uniquely [with] for each said activity
- 7 instance;
- 8 wherein said descriptor includes parameters which are
- 9 programmable at runtime for determining lifecycle behaviors of
- 10 each said activity instance, whereby lifecycle behavior may be
- 11 customized for each activity instance during runtime.
 - 1 2. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1 wherein said
 - 2 descriptor is programmable to modify said lifecycle behaviors
 - 3 according to a use made of said activity instance.
 - 1 3. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 2 wherein said use
 - 2 of said activity instance is responsive to a request by a client.
 - 1 4. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 2 wherein said use
 - 2 of said activity instance is responsive to a request by an
 - 3 activity instance.

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- 1 5. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said
- 2 descriptor is programmable to modify said lifecycle behaviors
- 3 according to a position in a system hierarchy of said activity
- 4 instance.
- 1 6. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said
- 2 descriptor enables control of concurrency of activity instances.
- 1 7. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said
- 2 descriptor enables control of re-creation of activity instances.
- 1 8. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said
- 2 descriptor enables control of termination of activity instances.
- 1 9. (Original) Apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said
- 2 descriptor permits creation of an activity instance identifier.

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- 1 10. (Currently amended) A method for improving the processing of
- 2 business data processing activities <u>respective of conditions at</u>
- 3 runtime, said mathod comprising the steps of:
- 4 defining activity lifecycle characteristics in [[=]]
- 5 descriptors that are customized respective of the processing of
- 6 individual activity instances at runtime;
- 7 associating [[said]] such a descriptor uniquely with [[an]]
- 8 <u>said respective</u> activity instance; and
- 9 using said descriptor to control a lifecycle of said
- 10 activity instance, whereby runtime processing may influence
- 11 lifecycle definition.
 - 1 11. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein said
 - 2 descriptor is programmable to enable definition of varying
 - 3 activity lifecycle characteristics according to a use made of
 - 4 said activity instance.
 - 1 12. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 11 wherein said use
 - 2 of said activity instance is responsive to a request by a client.

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- 1 13. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 11 wherein said use
- 2 of said activity instance is responsive to a request by an
- 3 activity instance.

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- 1 14. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein said
- 2 descriptor is programmable to modify said lifecycle behaviors
- 3 according to a position in a system hierarchy of said activity
- 4 instance.
- 1 15. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein said
- 2 descriptor enables control of concurrency of activity instances.
- 1 16. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein said
- 2 descriptor enables control of re-creation of activity instances.
- 1 17. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein said
- 2 descriptor enables control of termination of activity instances.
- 1 18. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 10, wherein said
- 2 descriptor permits creation of an activity instance identifier.
- 1 19. (Original) A computer program product comprising computer
- 2 program instructions stored on a computer-readable medium for,
- 3 when loaded into a computer and executed, causing the computer to
- 4 carry out the steps of the method as claimed in claim 10.
- 1 20. (Original) A computer program product as claimed in claim
- 2 19, whorein said descriptor is programmable to enable definition
- 3 of varying activity lifecycle characteristics according to a use
- 4 made of said activity instance.

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- 1 21. (Original) A computer program product as claimed in claim 20
- 2 wherein said use of said activity instance is responsive to a
- 3 request by a client.
- 1 22. (Original) A computer program product as claimed in claim 20
- 2 wherein said use of said activity instance is responsive to a
- 3 request by an activity instance.
- 1 23. (Original) A computer program product as claimed in claim
- 2 19, wherein said descriptor is flexibly programmable to modify
- 3 said lifecycle behaviors according to a position in a system
- 4 hierarchy of said activity instance.